

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

January 05, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

January 5, 2016

PATRICK OBAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF REWARD FUNDS RELATING TO LUCY PRECIADO (ALL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)

SUBJECT

Board approval is being requested for the distribution of reward funds in the amount of \$10,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in the amount of \$10,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds, to an individual who provided information to law enforcement that led to the apprehension and conviction of Jesus Humberto Canales, who stabbed Lucy Preciado to death with a sword.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On Saturday, July 12, 2008, at approximately 2:00 a.m., Lucy Preciado was stabbed to death with a sword by her boyfriend, Jesus Humberto Canales, in her Quartz Hill apartment in front of their children. On July 15, 2008, the Board approved a reward for \$10,000, and extended it on September 23, 2008, March 31, 2009, September 29, 2009 and March 16, 2010, and on November 5, 2013 the Board reestablished the reward to assist Sheriff's Homicide Bureau with solving this crime.

Mr. Canales fled to Mexico after murdering Lucy Preciado. In October 2013, the claimant was visiting her husband in Chimaltitan, Jalisco Mexico. While watching American's Most Wanted, she recognized Jesus (Chuey) Humberto Canales from media reports.

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The claimant contacted the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and informed them that Mr. Canales was a suspect in the murder of Lucy Preciado and has been living in the small town for years where the claimant's husband resides. The claimant's husband met with the U.S. Marshals and a Mexican Government Official in an effort to arrest Mr. Canales. In November 2013, Jesus Humberto Canales was expelled from Mexico and released to U.S. Marshals and extradited to Los Angeles, where homicide detectives took custody and placed him under arrest.

On March 10, 2015, Jesus Humberto Canales was convicted of murder 187PC and four counts of child abuse. On March 25, 2015, Mr. Canales was sentenced to 33 years without the possibility of parole.

A panel of individuals representing the Sheriff, Chief Executive Office, County Counsel and the Executive Officer of the Board reviewed the claim filed for the reward fund. The panel is recommending the \$10,000 reward be awarded to the claimant who provided information to law enforcement. In accordance with the provision of the Los Angeles Code, Title 4 – Revenue and Finance, the Board must now consider the claim and make a final determination for distribution of the reward funds.

<u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal of Service Excellence. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement which could lead to the apprehension and/or conviction of individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life for residents of Los Angeles County by removing such individuals from the community.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a \$10,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$2,000 from each Supervisor's budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Supervisors established a \$10,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$2,000 from each Supervisor's budget.

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the County Code establishing procedures for offering case rewards for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of persons guilty of criminal acts. Your Board, from time to time, has offered such rewards to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

and Finance relating to rewards; and specifically Section 4.50.010B which states "conviction of the person or persons responsible for the crime shall be required for payment of a reward unless the Board of Supervisors makes a finding of impossibility of Conviction due to the death or incapacity of such person or persons."

The Notice of Reward offered was posted on the Board of Supervisors' website and published in the Daily Breeze.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of this recommendation does not impact other current County services or projects.

Respectfully submitted,

PATRICK OGAWA

Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

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PO:sr

c: Sheriff
Chief Executive Officer
Acting County Counsel

Acting Auditor-Controller